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Media Advisory:

Governor to Sign Teacher-Student Misconduct Reform Bill, SB 7 by Senator Bettencourt, into Law

- WHO:** Governor Greg Abbott
Senator Paul Bettencourt
House Representative Ken King
- WHAT:** Governor Abbott's signing of Senate Bill 7 by Senator Bettencourt to strengthen educator misconduct laws in Texas
- WHEN:** Thursday, May 25, 2017, at 11:00 a.m.
- WHERE:** Governor's Reception Room, 2S.1
Texas Capitol
1100 Congress Ave
Austin, Texas 78701

Expanding educator misconduct laws: *With inappropriate teacher-student relationships on the rise across Texas, Senator Paul Bettencourt (R-Houston) authored Senate Bill 7 to strengthen educator misconduct laws across the state and prevent educators who engage in inappropriate relationships with students from being able to jump from school district to school district without facing any consequences. SB 7 won unanimous approval from the Texas Legislature, with all 30 Senators co-authoring the bill.*

To help ensure the safety of Texas students, SB 7 will strengthen reporting and training requirements for superintendents and principals, establish appropriate penalties for failure to report incidents, allow for pension revocation, and expand TEA's investigative authority from intra-district to inter-district relationships.

Governor Greg Abbott discussed protecting students from predatory teachers during his State of the State Address in January, and Lt. Governor Dan Patrick named the issue one of his top 10 legislative priorities.